



Testimony of Ashley Zane
Government Affairs Associate, CBIA
Before the Environment Committee
Hartford, CT
February 25, 2022

Testifying in opposition of:

SB 118: AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF CERTAIN POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS.

My name is Ashley Zane and I am a Government Affairs Associate for CBIA, the Connecticut Business and Industry Association. CBIA is Connecticut's largest business organization, with thousands of member companies, small and large, representing a diverse range of industries from across the state. Ninety-five percent of our member companies employ 100 or fewer workers.

I am here in opposition to SB 118, An Act Concerning the use of Certain Polystyrene Products. While we appreciate the goal of this bill, we encourage the committee to allow the food and beverage industry to continue their work in eliminating the use of polystyrene products on their own. Many restaurants are eliminating these products entirely or are in the process of eliminating them due to calls from consumers and better options in the marketplace.

Allowing the industry to continue this process on their own without legislation eases cost pressures in a highly inflationary environment and allows businesses time to research which alternative products meet their needs and the needs of the customers. Lastly, supply chain pressures continue to be a challenge and will likely continue to be a challenge due to global pressures in the foreseeable future. We strongly encourage the committee to take these factors into consideration.

I urge the committee to continue to work with the sector to find solutions and incentives to speed up the process of eliminating polystyrene products without legislation. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you may have.